



# HOWARD COUNTY POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SECTION **COLLISION MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Release: November 18, 2009

Media Inquiries: 410-313-2236 (M-F, 8-5)

410-313-3700 (after-hours)

## **Collision sends Hampstead man to Shock Trauma, snarls traffic on U.S. 29 for hours**

The Howard County police traffic enforcement section is investigating a serious motor vehicle collision that occurred on U.S. 29 on Wednesday. At approximately 6:53 p.m., the operator of a Mercury Tracer was traveling southbound on U.S. 29 just south of I-70 when he ran into the rear of a slow-moving tractor trailer.

The operator of the Mercury was flown by Maryland State Police MedEvac to the University of Maryland – Shock Trauma, where he is listed in critical condition. He has been identified as Kenneth Bennett Spears, 45, of the 1500 block of Fairmount Road in Hampstead.

The operator of the tractor trailer, which contained soap products, was not injured in the collision. He is identified as Alexander Astrinsky, 63, of the 10000 block of Sherwood Hill Road in Owings Mills.

Traffic on U.S. 29 was disrupted for almost three hours. The tractor trailer was traveling at a slow speed due to congestion from another collision further south on U.S. 29.

The investigation into this collision is continuing by PFC Mark Reid.

# # #